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ACTION IO-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4541

ALL CSCE CAPITALS IMMEDIATE 311

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 5464

DEPARTMENT PASS NSCE FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT AND NESSEN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: COMMENTS BEFORE THE PRESS BY SECRETARY KISSINGER AND
FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO AT THE CONCLUSION OF THEIR
GENEVA MEETINGS JULY 10 AND 11, 1975.

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS COMMENTS:

QUOTE.

MINISTER GROMYKO: MR. SECRETARY OF STATE, LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN, LET ME BE VERY BRIEF. WE HAVE HAD A
WONDERFUL LUNCH THAT WAS ARRANGED IN OUR HONOR BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE, A FACT WHICH YOU KNEW WOULD BE
TRUE, BUT I GUESS THAT IS NOT THE FIRST THING THAT
INTERESTS YOU. WE HAVE HAD DISCUSSIONS ON SEVERAL PROBLEMS
OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,
BILATERAL RELATIONS. WE TOUCHED UPON EUROPEAN MATTERS,
AND WE HAD AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON SEVERAL CONCRETE
QUESTIONS WHICH WERE USEFUL TO THE CAUSE. THERE WAS
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A THOROUGH EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF
CONCLUDING A NEW STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION AGREEMENT

BASED UPON THE VLADIVOSTOK UNDERSTANDING REACHED BY U.S. PRESIDENT FORD AND GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION, LEONID BREZHNEV. AND THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THAT QUESTION WAS VERY CONSTRUCTIVE. WE ALSO EXCHANGED VIEWS ON THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND IF YOU THINK IT IS SO EASY TO CHOOSE THE WORDS TO USE IN CHARACTERIZING THE RESULTS OF THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THAT QUESTION YOU WOULD BE WRONG. BUT AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THAT QUESTION WAS INDEED NECESSARY. AND MOST PROBABLY WE WILL BE MEETING WITH THAT QUESTION ON THE CROSSROADS OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICS MORE THAN ONCE IN THE FUTURE. WE TALKED, I WOULDN'T SAY AT GREAT LENGTH, BUT WE DID TALK IN A PRINCIPAL WAY ON BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE SOVIET UNION. AND THE RESOLVE OF THE TWO SIDES WAS CONFIRMED TO GO ON FOLLOWING THE LINE THAT HAS TAKEN SHAPE, THAT HAS BEEN DEFINED AND THAT WAS FORMULATED IN RECENT YEARS AND ESPECIALLY AND MOST PARTICULARLY AS A RESULT OF THE SOVIET-AMERICAN SUMMIT MEETINGS. AND I WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EMPHASIZE ONCE AGAIN AND MOST STRONGLY THAT THE ENTIRE SOVIET LEADERSHIP AND PERSONALLY GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV ARE FULLY DETERMINED TO CONTINUE TO PURSUE THE LINE THAT WE HAVE BEEN TAKING IN SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS AND IN INTERNATIONAL POLICIES GENERALLY, AND THAT IS A LINE AIMED AT PEACE, AT FURTHER DETENTE, AT THE FURTHER IMPROVEMENT OF SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS, AND WE WILL DO ALL IN OUR POWER TO CREATE A STILL MORE FAVORABLE ATMOSPHERE IN THE WORLD AT LARGE. AND LET ME SUM UP WHAT I HAVE SAID: ON THE WHOLE OUR MEETINGS AND DISCUSSIONS WERE VERY USEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE. LET ME END ON THAT NOTE. MAYBE I HAVE TAKEN A FEW SECONDS OF SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER'S TIME BUT HE WILL NOT BE IN DEBT FOR TOO LONG.

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THE PRECISE, DETAILED AND ILLUMINATING COMMENTS MADE BY MY SOVIET COLLEAGUE. THE MEETINGS WERE CONSTRUCTIVE AND USEFUL AND COVERED THE RANGE OF INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS,
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WITH ESPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS AND ON THE MIDDLE EAST, AS WELL AS THE EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE AND BILATERAL RELATIONS. THESE REGULAR MEETINGS, WHICH ENABLE OUR TWO COUNTRIES TO EXCHANGE VIEWS, HAVE BECOME A FEATURE THAT HELPS PROMOTE THE PURPOSES OF DETENTE AND REPRESENT THE FACT THAT THE UNITED STATES IS COMMITTED ON ITS PART TO PURSUE THE LINE OF POLICY THAT HAS BEEN LAID DOWN IN RECENT YEARS. WHY DON'T WE TAKE ONE OR TWO QUESTIONS.

Q: MR. SECRETARY. WHAT DID YOU DECIDE ON STRATEGIC ARMS?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I WAS WAITING FOR THAT QUESTION. WE REVIEWED THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES IN A NUMBER OF CATEGORIES, AND PROGRESS WAS MADE IN NARROWING THE DIFFERENCES AND IN UNDERSTANDING EACH OTHER'S POSITION. WE WILL WORK EARNESTLY AND WITH SOME OPTIMISM FOR CONCLUDING AN AGREEMENT ON THE BASIS OF THE VLADIVOSTOK PRINCIPLES THIS YEAR.

Q: MR. SECRETARY. HAVE YOU BEEN ABLE TO SEE EYE-TO-EYE WITH THE SOVIET UNION ON THE MEANS OF VERIFYING THE PRESENCE OF MULTIPLE WARHEADS IN MISSILES?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: THE PROBLEM OF VERIFICATION WAS ONE OF THE ISSUES THAT IS BEFORE US AND DISCUSSIONS ON THAT AS WELL AS ON OTHER ISSUES WILL CONTINUE.

Q: DID YOU MAKE PROGRESS ON THAT ISSUE?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I HAD INDICATED THAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE ON THE WHOLE COMPLEX OF ISSUES.

Q: DO YOU EXPECT YOU MADE ENOUGH PROGRESS TO EXPECT TO REACH AN EARLY AGREEMENT BY EARLY FALL SO THAT AN AGREEMENT MAY BE READY FOR SIGNING IF AND WHEN MR. BREZHNEV GOES TO WASHINGTON IN OCTOBER?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: WELL, I THINK IT IS PREMATURE TO SET A PARTICULAR DEADLINE. BUT I WOULD THINK THAT AS A RESULT OF THE DISCUSSIONS THAT HAVE BEEN HELD IN RECENT DAYS THE PROSPECTS OF REACHING AN AGREEMENT HAVE BEEN IMPROVED.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, WHAT CAN YOU TELL US OF YOUR

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DISCUSSIONS OF THE MALTA PROBLEM WITH THE SECURITY CONFERENCE?

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

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ALL CSCE CAPITALS IMMEDIATE 312

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DEPARTMENT PASS NSCE FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT AND NESSEN

SECRETARY KISSINGER: WELL, WE BELIEVE THAT THE DISCUSSIONS AT THE SECURITY CONFERENCE HAVE REACHED A POINT WHERE A FINAL STAGE SHOULD BE AGREED TO IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CANADIAN PROPOSAL, THAT IS TO SAY, THAT THE THIRD STAGE SHOULD BEGIN ON JULY 30. THERE IS A CONSENSUS TO WHICH 34 OF THE NATIONS HAVE AGREED. MALTA HAS INTRODUCED A PARTICULAR MODIFICATION WHICH IS NOW UNDER DISCUSSION, BUT AS FAR AS THE UNITED STATES IS CONCERNED, WE HOPE THAT THIS CONSENSUS OF ALL 35 NATIONS CAN BE REACHED QUICKLY.

QUESTION: MR. FOREIGN MINISTER, CAN YOU TELL US, SIR, WHETHER THE SOVIET UNION IS NOW PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE PRINCIPLE OF ON-SITE INSPECTION IN A FUTURE THRESHOLD NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY?

FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO: WELL THERE IS UNDERSTANDING WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON THAT QUESTION. AND WE PROCEED FROM THAT UNDERSTANDING. THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE MOVEMENT FORWARD TOWARDS BRINGING UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT UNDERSTANDING TO THE POINT OF AN AGREEMENT. AND I AM REFERRING HERE TO THE QUESTION OF PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS. AND THEREFORE WE TAKE AN OPTIMISTIC VIEW OF THE POSSIBILITY OF BRINGING THIS ENTIRE QUESTION TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION AND TURNING IT INTO AN AGREEMENT. BUT BY AND LARGE THE SOVIET UNION IS IN FAVOR OF A BAN ON ALL TYPES OF ALL KINDS OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES. BUT WE HERE ARE DEALING WITH THE QUESTION OF INTERNATIONAL ACCORDS. IF WE WERE THINKING IN TERMS OF CONCLUDING AN AGREEMENT WITH OUR OWN

SELVES, THAT WOULD BE NO PROBLEM, WE WOULD JUST SIGN IT.

QUESTION: MR.FOREIGN MINISTER, THE QUESTION IS, DOES THE UNDERSTANDING INCLUDE ON-SITE INSPECTION? FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO: WELL, GENERALLY SPEAKING, WE BELIEVE THAT NATIONAL MEANS OF VERIFICATION ARE QUITE ADEQUATE TO THE TASK OF CONTROLLING SUCH AN AGREEMENT. THIS IS NO NEW IDEA ON OUR PART AND WE BELIEVE THERE EXISTS ALL GROUNDS FOR US TO TAKE THAT POSITION, ALTHOUGH WE ARE, OF COURSE, AWARE THAT CERTAIN OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE THEIR OWN CONSIDERATIONS IN THAT REGARD.

SECRETARY KISSINGER: WE'LL TAKE ONE MORE QUESTION.

QUESTION: MR. KISSINGER, IS THERE SOMETHING MORE PRECISE ON THE MIDDLE EAST THAN AN EXCHANGE OF POINTS OF VIEW ON THIS QUESTION?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: WELL, I AM REALLY OFFENDED THAT YOU CONSIDER OUR MUTUAL EXPLANATIONS NOT PRECISE. (LAUGHTER) THERE WAS A REVIEW OF THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION, AS WELL AS THE PROSPECTS FOR COMPREHENSIVE AS WELL AS PARTIAL SOLUTIONS, BUT BEYOND THAT WE CANNOT GO.
END QUOTEDALE

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